



# NSCAS Update 2019-2020

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# Statewide Assessment Staff

- Director-Jeremy Heneger
- Assistant Director-Dr. Trudy Clark
- Assessment Program Coordinator-Maggie Sis
- Enhanced Assessment Grant Coordinator-Rhonda True
- NAEP Coordinator-Terry Ough
- ACT Coordinator-Iris Owens
- NWEA Professional Learning Lead-Aly Martinez Wilkinson
- Office Associates-Tyrina Webster & Stacey Weber



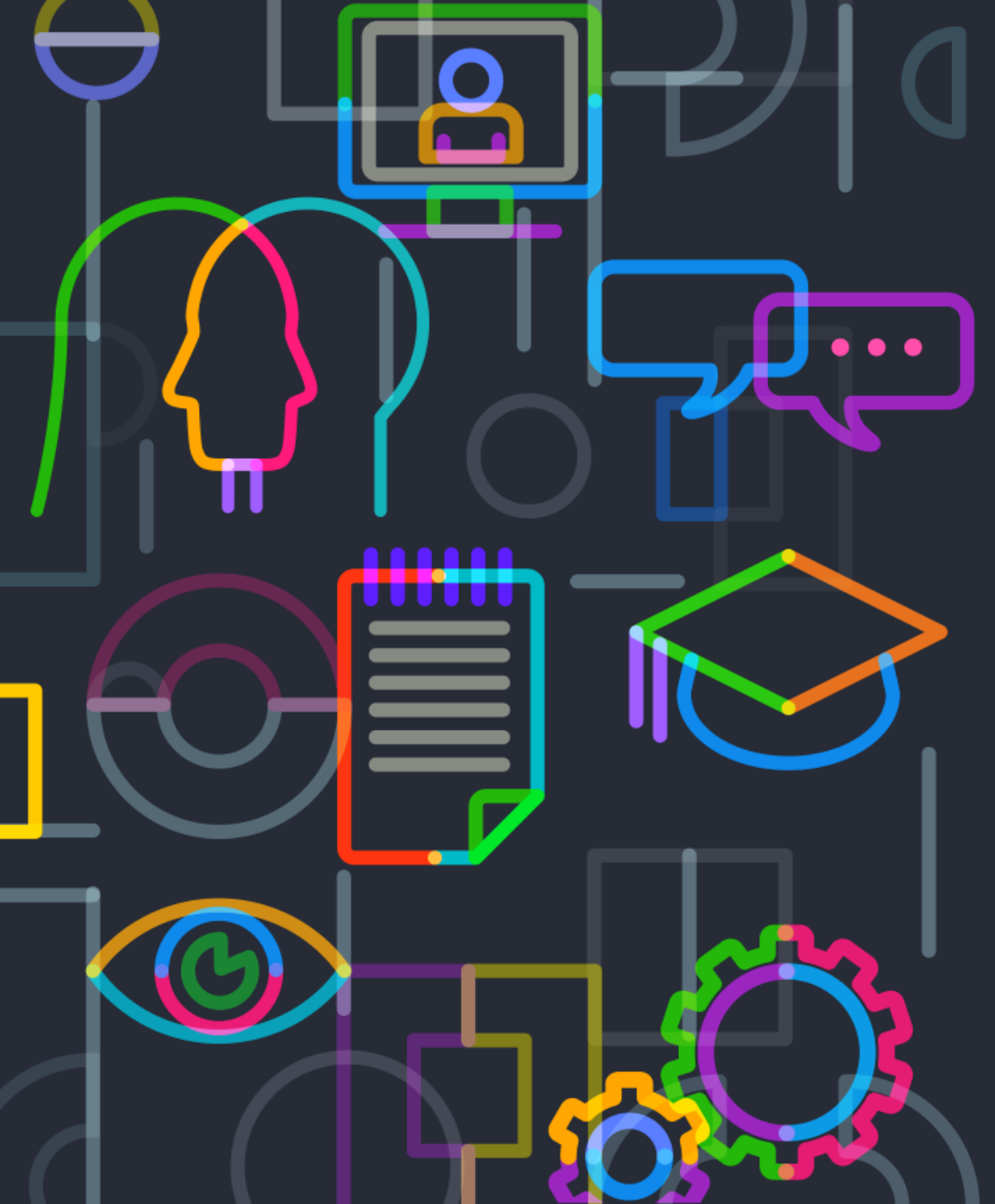
# New DAC?!?

- District Assessment Contact needs to be updated by the superintendent
- [DAC Contact Form 2019-20](#)
- DAC serves as the main point of contact for each district
- New DAC webinar on August 29 from 9am-Noon CT-overview of NSCAS system



# DAC Please Update

- New Principals
  - Include
    - Name
    - Email
    - Phone
    - Building(s)
- New N-TAC (Nebraska-Technical Assessment Contact)
  - Include
    - Name
    - Email
    - Phone
- Send updates to  
[nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov)



# DAC Please Update

- Did your district update email addresses?
- Send updates to

[nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov)

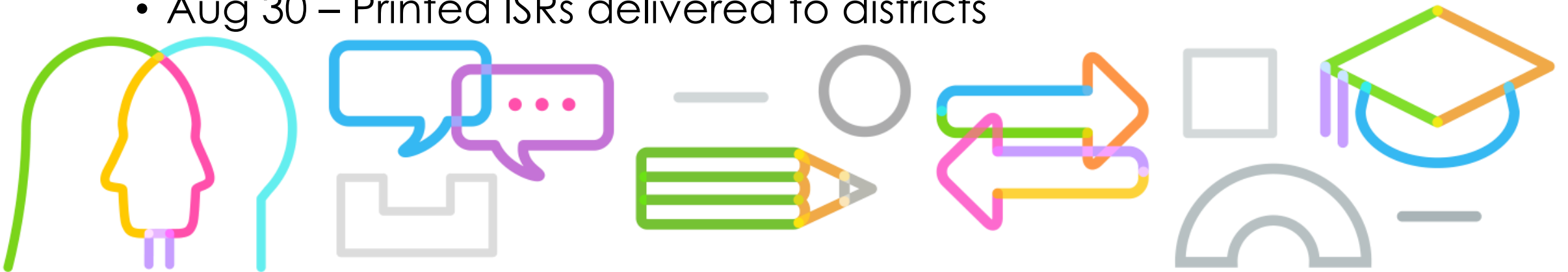


Wrapping up 2018-19

# Reporting 2018-19

- NSCAS ACT

- Just completed preliminary clean up through ADVISER Validation
- Aug 6 – District access to data file, profile reports and non-college reportable letters (Only includes students with valid ACT scores.)
- Aug 23 – ISRs & Final Summary Reports released in PA Next (Includes all third-year cohort students required to take ACT)
- Aug 30 – Printed ISRs delivered to districts



# Reporting 2018-19

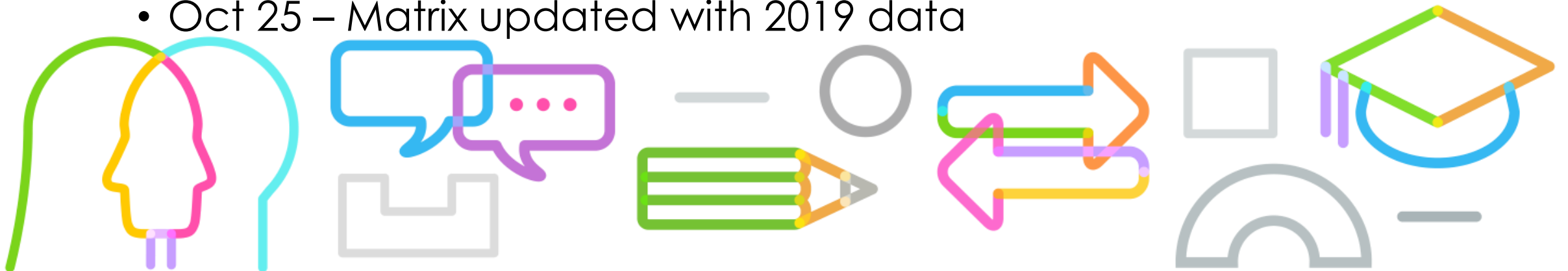
- NSCAS Alternate
  - Jul 22 – Final files available in DRC INSIGHT (formally eDIRECT, same website)
  - Aug 5 – Printed ISRs delivered to districts





# Reporting 2018-19

- NSCAS General
  - Aug 12 – District access to the preliminary file in CAP
  - Aug 12-20 – Prelim file clean-up window
  - Sep 3 – Final data files posted in CAP
  - Sep 27 – ISRs posted in CAP
  - Oct 4 – Summary reports posted in CAP
  - Week of Oct 21– Printed ISRs delivered to districts
  - Oct 25 – Matrix updated with 2019 data



# Reporting 2018-19

- DATA EMBARGO
  - Aggregated results are embargoed until the Public Release
  - Can share individual results with students and parents/guardians
  - Can share any results with staff
- NEP/AQuESTT/Public Reporting
  - Mid October



# Note: Reporting 2019-20

- Near immediate preliminary results for NSCAS General
- Should include score and performance level within 48 hrs



# Growth/Improvement in CCR World

- The story from around the country is that growth and improvement on CCR state assessments is slower than growth and improvement on older sets of standards.
- Many of the states have been in the transition longer than Nebraska. Do not be surprised if NE follows this trend.
- Success stories are not based on test prep or content review but on institutions that changed the system to adapt to the CCR standards. Systemic change includes curriculum, instruction, and assessment throughout the system, not just at tested grades.

# We believe...

Rigorous **content area standards** serve as the foundation for instruction that meets college and career readiness expectations.

High-quality **instructional materials** are strongly aligned to content area standards and reflect the instructional shifts within college and career ready standards.

High-quality assessments are included within a **balanced assessment system**, reflect the instructional shifts of college and career ready standards, and provide educators with useable and timely data to inform instruction.

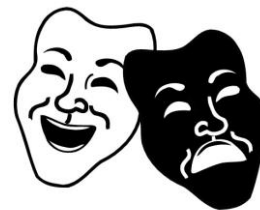
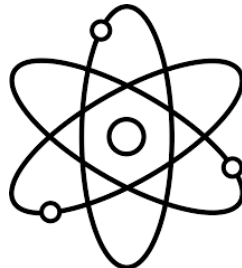
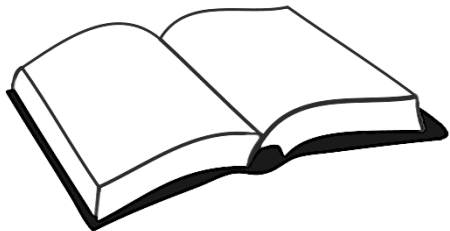
A continuum of **high-quality professional learning** improves educator's content knowledge, content pedagogy knowledge, and connects content area standards, instructional materials, and assessments.

To be **culturally sustaining**, content area standards, instructional materials, assessments, and professional learning must reflect and respect the backgrounds, histories, and narratives of all students, allowing students to understand and maintain their own unique cultural identity.

# The Instructional Shifts

Overarching messages around the changes in instructional materials, assessment, and practice necessary for students to master not only the standards, but to ultimately be prepared for success in college and careers

**“The Standards” = Shifts + Standards**



# The Instructional Shifts in Literacy

1. Develop foundational reading skills in **literary** and **informational text**
2. Find and use **text evidence** to support analysis and reflection in reading, writing, and discussion tasks
3. Conduct and publish **research** using **multiple credible sources**

# The Math Instructional Shifts

1. **Focus** on fewer concepts
2. Have the opportunity to understand mathematics through **coherence**
3. Experience **rigorous** mathematical content



# The Science Instructional Shifts

1. Apply science content knowledge through three dimensional learning.
2. Connect ideas across science domains by explaining natural phenomena and designing solutions to real-world challenges.
3. Use overlapping skills to investigate, evaluate, and reason scientifically across disciplines.



# Overview of 2019-20

# 2019-2020 NSCAS Testing Windows

- ELPA21
  - February 3-March 13
- NSCAS General & Alternate
  - March 16-April 24 Primary Window
  - April 26-May 1 Make up Window

## Test Windows

## Dates of 2020 ACT

### Test Window 1

Standard (Paper):

March 24, 2020

Accommodations (Paper):

March 24 – 27 & March 30, 31, April 1 – 3, 2020

Online Standard & Accommodations:

March 24 – 26 & March 31, April 1, 2, 2020

### Test Window 2

Standard (Paper):

April 7, 2020

Accommodations (Paper):

April 7 – 10 & April 13 – 17, 2020

Online Standard & Accommodations:

April 14, 15, 16 & April 21, 22, 23, 2020

### Test Window 3

Standard (Paper):

April 21, 2020

Accommodations (Paper):

April 21 – 24 & April 27 – May 1, 2020

Online Standard & Accommodations:

April 21, 22, 23 & April 28, 29, 30, 2020

## Test Windows

## Dates of 2021 ACT

### Test Window 1

Standard (Paper):

March 16, 2021

Accommodations (Paper):

March 16 – 19 & March 22-26, 2021

Online Standard & Accommodations:

March 16, 17, 18 & March 23, 24, 25, 2021

### Test Window 2

Standard (Paper):

March 30, 2021

Accommodations (Paper):

March 30-31, April 1-2 & April 5-9, 2021

Online Standard & Accommodations:

March 30, 31, April 1 & April 6, 7, 8, 2021

### Test Window 3

Standard (Paper):

April 13, 2021

Accommodations (Paper):

April 13-16 & April 19-23, 2021

Online Standard & Accommodations:

April 13, 14, 15 & April 20, 21, 22, 2021



# NSCAS System

- High level of stability in 2019-2020
- Largest change is in Science
  - USDOE approved wavier
  - Census field testing for both NSCAS General & Alternate
  - No reporting or inclusion in accountability calculation
  - Another presentation focused on science information
  - Operational tests in 2020-2021



# NSCAS System

- Districts continue to have access to Testwiz
  - Pricing changes, only sign up if you are going to use the system
  - DAC survey is out to determine which districts are going to use the system. Due August 2



# NSCAS System

- Certified Facilitator Program
  - 72 across the state
  - More collaborative process when designing and developing content for professional learning
- Addition of NWEA employee housed at NDE
  - Professional Learning Lead-Aly Martinez Wilkinson
  - Coordinate professional learning with existing efforts
  - Help with other aspects of the program





# NSCAS General

- Continue improvements in technology and processes, especially around reporting timelines
- Highlighting will be available on iPads
- Improved functionality of zoom(magnification) on MAC



# NSCAS Alternate

- Online test with printable paper option (you do not receive materials)
- Be sure IEP teams are using NDE guidelines to determine eligibility
- NE is nearing the federally mandated less than 1% participation, but we will likely apply for a waiver again
- Third-year cohort students that qualify have to take this test



# NSCAS ACT

- ACT Online Prep (AOP) or PreACT
- Confirmation to DAC this week, changes by Aug. 9
  - [Iris.A.Owens@act.org](mailto:Iris.A.Owens@act.org)
- NE is getting good at this
  - Number of invalidation & misadministration continues to decrease
- Online ACT went well
  - Continue to use Mock Administration and other checks
- Final year of contract, this winter
- NDE will release an RFP for college entrance exam



On the Horizon

An abstract graphic on the left side of the slide features a dark blue background with various colorful geometric shapes and icons. These include a stylized head profile in green, orange, and pink; a laptop with a person icon in blue and orange; two overlapping speech bubbles in blue and purple; a notepad with a red cover and blue lines; a graduation cap in green and orange; a stylized eye with a green 'G' in the center; and two interlocking gears, one in green and one in pink. The overall theme suggests technology, education, and communication.

# NSCAS System

- October Roadshow
  - Contains information about all aspects of NSCAS system
- AM Sessions
  - Oct 9<sup>th</sup> Scottsbluff
  - Oct 10<sup>th</sup> Kearney
  - Oct 11<sup>th</sup> Norfolk
  - Oct 15<sup>th</sup> Lincoln
  - Oct 16<sup>th</sup> Omaha



# NSCAS System

- NDE continues to explore how to evolve the current NSCAS System
  - Continue supporting districts in balanced assessment efforts
  - Supports to districts for formative assessment
  - Professional learning opportunities
  - Integration of NSCAS General and MAP Growth



# Questions?

[Contact Us!](#)

Phone: 402-471-2495

Email: [nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov)

